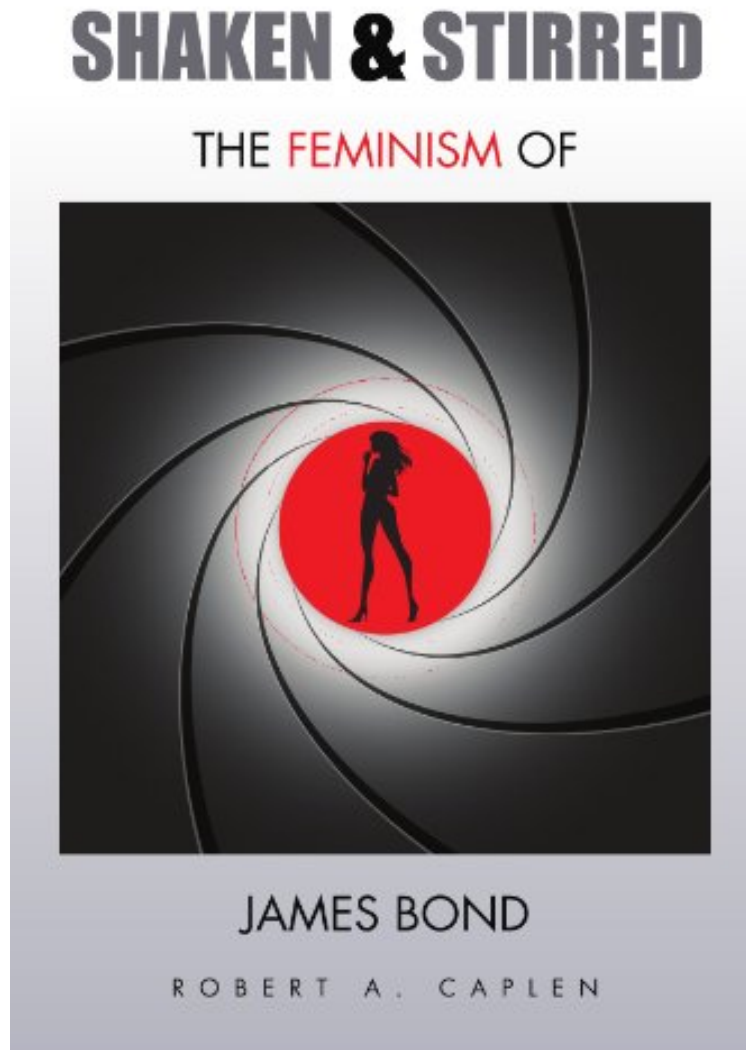


Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond

Robert A. Caplen

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Robert A. Caplen : Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is an extremely well-written, comprehensive study about James ...By Paula BernsteinThis is an extremely well-written, comprehensive study about James Bond, feminism, and the

way women are portrayed in the 007 novels and films. The analysis is very insightful, the writing is scholarly but entertaining at the same time, and the organization is creative as the author weaves the story of James Bond's women into a background about women in society and film and the second-wave feminist movement. Add it to your reading list, 5+ stars! 2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Insightful book for all James Bond Fans By Doug "Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond" by Robert A. Caplen joins the canon of James Bond scholarship in a unique way by looking at the iconic figure from a feminist perspective. Some fans may read the title, see "feminism" and walk away. Too bad for them because Caplen introduces us to the world of the Women in the James Bond universe dispelling many of the knee-jerk, misogynist myths that have been attached to the series going back to the earliest movies in the series. There have been other books about Bond Girls, but as good as they are they are mostly filled with images of the beautiful women who have appeared in all the Bond movies. Other books on Bond just touch the surface of what Caplen presents in "Shaken Stirred" which looks at the women in the Bond movies through the lens of political and cultural feminism within the context of the era that each movie was made. Caplen's book is part one in what will hopefully be continued soon and covers the movies up to 1977's "The Spy Who Loved Me." Is James Bond indeed a "misogynist dinosaur" as stated by Dame Judi Dench's M in "GoldenEye" or was that comment just a wink and a nod apology by the producers for all of Bond's past indiscretions? Long time connoisseurs of all things James Bond will enjoy the insightful commentary and in-depth research that's backed up with detailed footnotes. However, the book is not just written for the academic egg-heads in the "women's studies" department doing research in the college library. Caplen writes in a thoughtful and accessible prose that all James Bond fans, from the casual to the hard core devotees, will enjoy. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Feminism of Bond By PJ not DJ The Feminism of James Bond is the first book in author Robert Caplen's series, and it is exceptionally well done. It is a comprehensive cultural history of the James Bond films that dissects the 1962-1979 films (Dr. No through Moonraker) and previews the remaining films (the subject of the next book in the series). The revised edition even references Skyfall. Some big names have weighed in about the book, including Sir Roger Moore (he quoted it in his memoir!) and Bond Girls Glorinda Hendry (Rosie Carver) and Lois Chiles (Dr. Holly Goodhead). They're definitely onto something because this book is truly the first of its kind. I've been a Bond fan for years, but Caplen's discussion really makes you look at the films in a new and entertaining light. The Feminism of James Bond has a little of everything: it's fully loaded with information about Ian Fleming, his novels, the films, and the major actors and events that gave rise to and sustained the feminist movement; and it's imbued with some tongue-in-cheek humor along the way. There are over 50 images that accompany the text, too. It is one of the most well-researched books I've come across in a while, and it's certainly nothing like the typical James Bond books that are currently in print. Caplen ably presents the feminist movement through the lens of the Bond Girl, exploring how she represented an archetype and reflected changing notions about the role of women in society. The Feminism of James Bond articulately and persuasively dissects whether these female characters were sexually liberated and independent, mechanisms through which Bond and his male-dominant society functioned, or disruptions to and liabilities for that society. You will want to revisit the films after reading the book, and you'll appreciate them in a completely new light.

The Bond Girl is one of the most recognized and celebrated cultural icons of the last fifty years. First introduced in Ian Fleming's novels and short stories, producers Albert "Cubby" Broccoli and Harry Saltzman breathed life into her cinematic manifestation beginning with Dr. No in 1962. Since then, the world has been fascinated by the Bond Girl. Although she has been lauded by some as a liberated woman and true feminist archetype, the Bond Girl has virtually escaped critical study . . . until now. *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* is the first large-scale academic work in which feminism intersects the world of James Bond. It analyzes the cinematic Bond Girl and argues that the character initially served as a different archetype: one that reinforced a traditional, feminine ideal that served as a powerful reactionary symbol against the gender equality movement that gained prominence in the United States during the 1960s and 1970s. *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* provides a glimpse into "second wave" feminism, the Women's Liberation Movement, and cultural representations of women during the latter half of the American twentieth century through a Bondian lens. It traces the evolutionary journey of the cinematic Bond Girl and assesses her cultural impact, revealing who she is and what she represents during the first eleven films in the James Bond franchise, a seventeen-year period described as the Golden Era of the Bond Girl, and beyond.

"Now there's a new twist!" -- Thomas Elliott, on *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* -- *Mensa Bulletin* (April/May 2011) *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* offers a "thorough feminism perspective." -- Gloria Hendry, aka "Rosie Carver" in *Live and Let Die* *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* "stands high above many of the 'Bond as social zeitgeist' stuff we've seen in recent decades." -- Matt Sherman, creator of *SpyFest* and the *Bond Collectors' Weekends* "I . . . enjoyed your analysis of the importance of the Bond girl icon as it relates to and reveals the changing culture." -- Lois Chiles, aka "Dr. Holly Goodhead" in *Moonraker* "[W]e finally have a detailed analysis of the complex evolution of the Bond Girl character. This book gives new insights into Bond's world and insures that you'll never look at Bond Girls the same way again!" -- Charles Helfenstein, author of *The Making of On*

Her Majesty's Secret Service
From the Author
The Feminism of James Bond is the first installment in the Shaken Stirred series, which analyzes the historical and social implications of the feminist and Women's Liberation movements in popular culture. In *The Feminism of James Bond*, Robert A. Caplen conducts an independent examination of the Bond Girl character and charts both her development and significance over the course of the first eleven James Bond cinematic missions.

"Bond. James Bond." These three words comprise a phrase that is one of the most famous lines in cinematic history. The name alone conjures up fantastic images of style, savoir-faire, displays of derring-do, and sexual prowess. It also is associated with the Bond Girl, one of the most celebrated fictional characters appearing on film. She is known by many familiar names, including Honey Ryder, Pussy Galore, Holly Goodhead, Jinx, and Vesper Lynd.

In *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond*, the lens focuses almost exclusively upon the representations and various manifestations of the Bond Girl throughout the history of the franchise. The twenty-two James Bond films produced by EON Productions span a period of nearly fifty years in American history, preceding and postdating the modern, "second wave" feminist and Women's Liberation movements. The numerous Bond Girls and Bond Women presented in these films undergo significant transformations over the course of time, and a close examination of this phenomenon has been long overdue. Providing a view of the gender equality movement and the cultural representations of women in the latter half of the twentieth century through a Bondian lens, *Shaken Stirred: The Feminism of James Bond* charts the journey of the Bond Girl and explores the inextricable link between James Bond and the feminist and Women's Liberation movements.